

Commissioner for Patents
Proposed Amendment dated February 24, 2005
Response to Final Office Action dated November 24, 2004
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Serial No.: 10/606852
Art Unit: 3632
Examiner: Sterling
Docket No.: RPS9 2003 0080 US1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (canceled).

2 (currently amended). The assembly of claim 3, wherein the counterbalance extension link and the first arm are collinear and the orientation of the first slot is parallel to the force of gravity.

3 (currently amended). A mechanical assembly, comprising:

~~[an arm]~~ a first arm connected to and free to rotate about a pivot point;

a counterbalance extension link connected to and free to rotate about the pivot point;

a yoke including a first slot in which a pin of the counterbalance extension link resides, wherein the yoke is enabled to translate in a plane responsive to rotation of the counterbalance extension link pin about the pivot point; and

a force generating device connected between the counterbalance extension link pin and a fixed point on the yoke to exert a force on the counterbalance extension link pin, wherein the orientation of the force produced by the force generating device remains constant as the yoke translates responsive to the counterbalance extension link pin rotating about the pivot point;

wherein the yoke includes at least a second slot perpendicular to the first slot and a pin attached to a fixed reference through the second slot to guide the motion of the yoke as it translates.

4-5 (canceled).

6 (previously presented). The assembly of claim 3, wherein the force generating device is a constant force spring.

7-20 (canceled).

21 (previously presented). The assembly of claim 3, wherein the pivot point comprises a pin extending through a hole in the fixed reference and wherein the counterbalance extension link rotates about the pin on a first side the fixed reference and the arm rotates about the pivot point on a second side of the fixed reference.

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22 (new). The assembly of claim 3, wherein the counterbalance extension link and the first arm are perpendicular and the orientation of the first slot is perpendicular to the force of gravity.

23 (new). The assembly of claim 3, further comprising a second arm connected to and free to rotate about a second pivot point wherein the second pivot point is located on the first arm, a second counterbalance extension link connected to and free to rotate about the second pivot point, a second yoke enabled to translate in a plane responsive to rotation of the second extension link pin and a second force generating device to exert a counterbalancing force on the second link pin.

24 (new). The assembly of claim 23, wherein the first and second force generating devices are provided by a single spring.